

degree in computer science from the University of Maryland in 1985 and a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in 1992.

Commander McCool described his path to aviation as a series of doors of opportunity opening to him, first the door to the Naval Academy and then another to naval aviation. Then in 1996, NASA accepted Commander McCool for astronaut shuttle training, and he, his wife, Lani, and their three sons moved to Houston.

Commander McCool's experience as a test pilot, and his reputation as one of the Navy's elite aviators, led to his opportunity to fly on the *Columbia*. Commander McCool dedicated himself to space exploration and to the progress of mankind. He brought his extraordinary gift to students in the classroom through a NASA Program that sent astronauts to speak with students. Commander McCool had a unique ability to reach the students and cherished this opportunity. Because of these opportunities to speak with students, he dreamed of retiring from NASA and becoming a high school science teacher.

Commander McCool would be pleased to know that children name him as a personal inspiration. Children all over the country say that Commander McCool has inspired them to go after their dreams, to not give up, and to achieve. He taught them that you do not have to be extremely wealthy or a genius to reach one's dreams. Commander McCool was a regular person and believed regular people who set goals and work hard can produce great things.

Space travel and exploration excited Commander McCool and he believed that the experiments on board the *Columbia* would improve people's lives on earth. Commander McCool and his crew mates were concerned about the environment and the well-being of people on this earth. The crew hoped, through their flight, to set an example for others as to the importance of working in harmony for the betterment of the planet, its environment and all humanity. While aboard *Columbia*, Commander McCool said "I've had the opportunity to be on the flight deck, to look outside and really soak up the sunrises and sunsets, the moonrises and moonsets, the views of the Himalayas, Australia, all the continents." Commander McCool will be remembered for articulating to all of us his awe of the majesty and mystery of space, his dedication to advancing our knowledge, and his love for his family. As Audrey said of her son, "He did not die in vain."

HONORING CINDY JONES AND HER DEDICATION TO TEACHING

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cindy Jones and her induction into the National Teachers Hall of Fame. Cindy teaches elementary education at Cason Lane Academy in my hometown of Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Only five teachers nationwide are inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame each year. Cindy's outstanding service and dedica-

tion to the teaching profession have earned her this distinguished recognition.

Cindy has helped develop and enhance several after-school programs in Murfreesboro. She belongs to a host of professional associations, including the National Education Association, the Tennessee Education Association, the Murfreesboro Education Association, the Mary Tom Berry Reading Association, the American Psychological Association, Cognition and Phi Kappa Phi.

In addition to helping her students attain excellent educations, Cindy has aided her peers through participation in a number of workshops and seminars. She has even presented a research paper in Durham, England, at the International Neurological Symposium. And she has coauthored three professional publications regarding developmental cognitive neurolinguistics.

I salute Cindy's remarkable achievements not only as an educator, but also as a citizen who is ensuring our society has the resources it needs to succeed. Our children, after all, reap the rewards of the hard work and determination that people like Cindy possess. She is a truly gifted educator who has made a tremendous difference in the lives of so many.

ROOSEVELT WILSON: A PILLAR IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who is closing one chapter in his illustrious career. Mr. Roosevelt Wilson or "Prof. Wilson", as his journalism students call him, is being honored tonight in Tallahassee, Florida. After nearly 18 years of teaching journalism, Mr. Wilson is retiring from the Florida A&M University School of Journalism, Media and Graphic Arts, and is being recognized at a special retirement banquet in his honor from Florida A&M University. Tonight journalism students, family, friends, former athletes and community leaders will gather to honor and pay tribute to this remarkable man who has influenced and touched so many lives.

Throughout many crossroads in my personal and professional career, Mr. Wilson has played a critical role. As a high school senior who was eager to play for the world-famous Florida A&M University Rattler football team, Mr. Wilson helped me and countless other athletes secure scholarships. As Sports Information Director and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Florida A&M University, Mr. Wilson's wisdom and real-world advice were inspirational to thousands of bright-eyed student athletes with dreams of gridiron success.

In 1991, Mr. Wilson embarked on a new venture as publisher of a weekly African-American Newspaper, the Capitol Outlook. With the help of family and friends, Mr. Wilson turned a small weekly paper into an award-winning nationally recognized publication. Every week more than 16,000 readers across the state read this weekly paper for its political, community and feature coverage. As publisher of the Capitol Outlook, Mr. Wilson's weekly columns have won national awards and the newspaper has been cited for excel-

lence in editorial writing, public service, creativity and religion coverage. In addition, the Capitol Outlook was cited by the local Chamber of Commerce for business excellence.

Words are inadequate to describe Mr. Wilson's contribution to the publishing and broadcasting world. In 2000, Mr. Wilson's coverage of the Executive Order eliminating affirmative action in the state of Florida and the public outcry that ensued was recognized for its objectivity and fairness. Furthermore, his weekly call-in radio show "Against the Grain" has become one of the most popular radio shows reaching thousands of listeners across North Florida.

Throughout his professional career, Mr. Wilson has been honored for his community work and academic achievements on several occasions. In 1999, he was inducted into the Florida A&M University Sports Hall of Fame. He has also been recognized as Florida Teacher of the Year by Florida A&M University and the NAACP honored him with their Community Service Award.

As Florida A&M University honors Mr. Roosevelt Wilson, I praise this man for his boundless energy and his commitment to the University. I congratulate Mr. Wilson on his retirement and praise him for all that he has sacrificed on behalf of his students. Mr. Wilson's legacy as a teacher and educator will live on through the thousands of students who've passed through his classes and the thousands of athletes who've passed through his office door. His legacy as a wordsmith will continue to live on through his columns, pictures, articles, and radio broadcasts. I am honored to call him a friend and a mentor.

JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY PROGRAM

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, for the past 64 years the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program has empowered Americans who are blind or severely disabled by providing them with a diverse set of employment opportunities. Today 38,000 disabled Americans are realizing their potential by working in their local communities across the country under this program. These Americans are proud to provide federal and military customers with a wide array of SKILCRAFT® and other JWOD products and services. The JWOD Program prides itself on delivering high quality products and services at a competitive price in the most convenient way possible.

Some of the product categories offered by the JWOD program include office supplies, military specific, safety, maintenance, repair, medical-surgical, janitorial-sanitation, and customization. The services that are provided to the federal and military customer include but aren't limited to call center and switchboard operation, military base and federal office building supply centers, CD-Rom duplication-replication, data entry, document imaging and grounds care.

I rise today in support of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program and the opportunities it provides for an underemployed population of hard working Americans. Furthermore, I urge my colleagues to purchase SKILCRAFT® and

JWOD products from the House-Senate Stationary stores not only because of their quality and value, but also because of the socio-economic benefits that can come from supporting the program. By purchasing these products and using these services we are enabling more disabled Americans to have the opportunity to become taxpayers. Today in Runnemede, New Jersey, 34 blind Americans are employed under the JWOD Program and are producing high quality items or services for us, the federal customer.

The JWOD Program is administered by the Presidentially-appointed Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, with much assistance from National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and NISH, which serves people with a wide range of disabilities. More than 650 local nonprofit agencies associated with NIB and NISH employ people who are blind or disabled to produce the quality products and offer the services authorized for sale to the federal government under the JWOD Program.

The JWOD Program is a great illustration of a successful partnership that has the ability to continuously grow with the changing procurement environment within the federal government.

The Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program works for America.

RECOGNIZING JOHN CLEARY FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize John Cleary, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 249, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

John has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as Camp Bartle and as a counselor at Camp Naish. Over the five years he has been involved in Scouting, he has earned 28 merit badges. Additionally, John has held numerous leadership positions, serving as patrol leader, senior patrol leader, quartermaster and chaplain aide. John also has been honored for his numerous Scouting achievements with such awards as the Arrow of Light Award, Foxman in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, Brave in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and the Order of the Arrow Award.

For his Eagle Scout project, John planned and coordinated the replacement of playground equipment in his neighborhood park in Farley, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending John Cleary for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to enhance energy conservation and research and development, to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes:

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concerns with H.R. 6, "The Energy Policy Act of 2003," in particular, provisions to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) for drilling.

I support a strong, comprehensive national energy policy that promotes conservation, alternative fuels, and technologies, in conjunction with maintaining sound environmental practices. One thing that every Member of this Congress agrees on is that our nation needs an energy plan that has a strong balance between energy production and energy efficiency. I was pleased to hear President Bush once again lead the energy section of his State of the Union address with support for energy efficiency, especially his initiative to accelerate research into hydrogen fuel cells. This kind of long-term commitment will help our country shift to more environmentally friendly energy sources. We must maintain proper levels of funding for renewable energy research, so renewable energy can become a greater proportion of our nation's energy supply in the long run.

Although The Energy Policy Act of 2003 contained several conservation measures, including close to \$7 billion for tax credits for the use of alternative fuels and conservation, the proposal also contained an additional \$12 billion in production-related tax incentives to coal, oil, and gas industries. Even so, experts predict the shortage of natural gas supplies will continue suggesting that tax policy alone is not sufficient to address the crisis in natural gas. Therefore, these tax measures combined with the proposal to open ANWR for drilling led me to oppose H.R. 6.

I believe we have a responsibility to preserve and protect our environment. As you know, whether or not to drill for oil in ANWR has long been a controversial subject. I believe there are other ways to ensure the United States has a national energy policy other than disturbing a pristine wildlife refuge. Proponents of drilling for oil in ANWR have not made an adequate case to me, and therefore, I support an amendment to strike the language in H.R. 6 proposing to open ANWR to drilling.

The U.S. Geological Survey reports that there are only 3.2 billion barrels (6 months' supply) of economically recoverable oil in ANWR. In contrast to ANWR's 6 month oil supply, natural gas from Alaska's North Slope would provide a 10 month supply. There is consensus from all sides that this natural gas should be piped to the lower 48 states, but there is disagreement on the location of the pipeline. I support efforts to make a final determination so this pipeline can be built quickly, but safely. Other sources of energy on the North Slope include a 13 month supply in the

North Slope Reserves and a 3 year supply at West Sac.

I know that energy efficiency alone will not be able to meet our country's current energy needs, we must begin to make a stronger commitment to alternative fuels and conservation as ways to improve our environment and boost this Nation's struggling economy. As this debate now moves forward, Congress must seize this opportunity to put these important efforts at the forefront of a comprehensive national energy policy.

I am committed to finding solutions to the energy crisis that strike a proper balance between conservation and production. I am hopeful that The Energy Policy Act of 2003 will represent a balanced, more fiscally responsible proposal when I have the chance to vote on the House-Senate Conference Report on this bill later in the 108th Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, April 11, 2003, I was absent due to participation in a previously scheduled conference.

On rollcall votes numbered 142, 143, and 144, I would have voted "yea."

I would have voted to support an amendment by Representative KIND to strike Title II of the Energy Bill (#142). Title II would not only increase oil and gas drilling on sensitive public lands without ensuring environmental protections, but it would also provide royalty relief to these industries. The American public and Federal Treasury need these royalty payments in order to fully fund the Conservation Trust Fund, which pays for many of our nation's parks, refuges, wildlife protections, open space, and contributes to the preservation of our historic and cultural resources.

I would have also voted to support Representative RAHALL's amendment to strike Division C, Title III of the Energy Bill (#143). I oppose these provisions that provide benefits to certain coal companies at the detriment of competition within the coal industry, taxpayers, and the environment.

Finally, I would have voted in support of Representative DINGELL's motion to recommit the Energy Bill (#144). I support Mr. DINGELL's efforts to substitute a hydroelectric energy title that would have offered increased protections for fish and wildlife.

On rollcall vote numbered 145, I would have voted "nay." The statement that I submitted for the RECORD during the debate on the Energy Bill provides an explanation of why I voted against final passage of H.R. 6.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE BELL "MISS HONEY" WALLACE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and accomplishments of Mrs. Willie Bell Wallace of